

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 221

Relating to the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries electronic permitting system

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| To: | Ways and Means Full Committee |
| From: | Natural Resources Subcommittee |
| Carrier: | Senator Frederick |

SB 221 permits the Department to collect a surcharge of 10.7% of every invoice generated by the Department's new electronic permitting system, with implementation anticipated in mid-2025. The measure also establishes the Electronic Permitting System Subaccount, intended to collect the surcharge revenue, and continuously appropriate funds to the Department for operations and maintenance of the system.

The Department may reduce the surcharge for the following biennium if there is sufficient revenue to cover system maintenance expenses, plus operational reserves, in the Subaccount. The Department anticipates that the 10.7% rate will be used initially and reassessed each biennium. The measure takes effect January 1, 2024, and the surcharge will begin when the system goes live, in mid-2025. There is no anticipated fiscal impact in the 2023-25 biennium.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends SB 221 be reported out do pass.